

RAMSBURY & AXFORD PARISH COUNCIL

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MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON MONDAY OCTOBER 16th 2006 in Axford Village Hall

PRESENT: Mora Abell, Paul Court, Anne Dixon, Graeme Fearon, Cllr Susan Findlay, Sheila Glass (Chairman), George Hawes, Chris Morgan, Geoffrey Rissone, Geoffrey Treherne, Cllr Chris Humphries, Sue Arnold (Clerk), Tim McQue (School Governor) and one member of the public.

- 1 **Apologies for absence for approval:** Steve Cook, Fiona Kimber and Debbie Marshall. **Approved.**
Apologies were also received from Brian Twigger.
- 2 **Disclosure of interest:** None
- 3 **The minutes of the meeting held on September 18th** were approved.
- 4 **Matters arising:**
 - a. **Swans Bottom.** There has been no response to the email sent to KDC stating that The Parish Council agreed unanimously that the original historic name, *Swans Bottom*, should be retained. Residents of Swans Bottom have not received a letter from KDC consulting them on the name. No response has been received as yet from the residents at Mulberry House to a letter from the PC seeking their views on changing their address from Chapel Lane to Swans Bottom.
 - b. **Ashley Piece Parking.** A letter has been delivered to every house in Ashley Piece requesting that cars are parked considerately and do not block the pavement.

5 NEW CORRESPONDENCE for discussion:

2107	01/10/06	M Davison	Report of vandalism on 23 rd September – flour thrown over cars in the High Street. Photos provided. Reported to police.
2126	09/10/06	Aldbourn PC	Query regarding how Ramsbury PC budgets for grants. Action: S. Glass to respond, describing the process used by Ramsbury PC
2127	09/10/06	M. Fremlin	Loose chippings and tarry patches on resurfaced Ashley Piece.
2128	09/10/06	L. Allison	Hedge-cutting in Crowood Lane
2137	16/10/06	Allan Plenderleith	Letter of resignation as parish councillor. Action: Clerk to start process of co-opting another councillor.
2138	16/10/06	KDC	Re letter of complaint from Hilldrop Lane resident regarding rubbish dumped at Rec. Centre. S. Glass has investigated and responded.

6 COMMITTEE REPORTS:

A Planning

Chairman: G. Hawes

Planning Applications Processed since September

K/55002/F	Two storey side extension 41 Ashley Piece, Ramsbury. Mr and Mrs Davison
PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection Granted
K/55204/TR2	Works to trees in the garden of the property to consist of; the lifting of the low branches on a cherry tree plus shortening back away from the road and drive, and light thinning of the centre plus removal of dead material, the thinning of the previous pruning points on a lime tree by at least 30%, removal of upright stems to open up the canopy, thinning the remainder and lifting of low branches, and the cutting back of crab apple trees to clear the side of the house. N.B. Works to fell dead trees and also works to a cotoneaster tree as specified in the applicant's proposal are considered exempt. Springs House, Union Street, Ramsbury. Mr.V. D. Jones

PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection Awaited
K/55141/F	Conversion of garage to kitchen and single storey extension 55A High Street, Ramsbury. Mr. and Mrs Eyles
PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection, but concern over loss of off street parking. Now revised. Awaited
K/54295/TR2	The removal of a large red cedar tree adjacent to the front gateway of the property Knapp House, Scholards Lane, Ramsbury Mr. N. Shaw
PC Comment KDC Decision	Object. Although this is NOT a red cedar it is in a very prominent position in the landscape Awaited
K/55208/F	Weatherboard outside of building Bridge farm bungalow, Elmdown, Ramsbury. Mr. C. S. E. Persson
PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection Awaited
K/54910/F	Proposed single dwelling Land adjoining 1 Ashley Piece, Ramsbury. Mr. and Mrs. Hicklin
PC Comment KDC Decision	The Parish Council has no objection to the proposed single dwelling but has received strong local objection to the new access which it is felt would spoil the approach to the 61 houses forming Ashley Piece. We recommend a shared access with number 1 Ashley Piece Awaited. Referred to committee with approval recommended.
K/55106/LBC and K/551223/F	Porch over doorway to garden 12 Burdett Street, Ramsbury. Mr and Mrs Bell
PC Comment KDC Decision	In circulation No objection
K/54933/F	The erection of a satellite dish in connection with the installation and commissioning of communal aerial systems to provide satellite and terrestrial television and radio reception.1 thru 17 Saxon Forge, High Street Ramsbury. Sarcen Housing Association
PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection Awaited
K/55118/TR2	The felling of two field maple trees adjacent to the front drive of the property. 20 Isles Road, Ramsbury. Mrs R Knowles
PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection Awaited
K/55104/TR2	The felling of a pine tree in the front garden of the property 1 Maslins Close, Ramsbury. Mrs M Wakely.
PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection Granted
K/55206/F	Alterations and extension to house. Construction of replacement garage. 103 High Street, Ramsbury Mr. & Mrs. McMahon
PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection Awaited
K/55039/F	Erection of combined field shelter and tack room/store Paddock adjacent to Southside Cottage, Stone Lane, Axford. P. E. Lindsell
PC Comments KDC Decision	No objection Granted
K/55079/TR2	The felling of three silver birch trees along the side of the drive at the rear of the property. Replacement planting is proposed. 103 High Street, Ramsbury Mr S Smith.
PC Comments KDC Decision	No objection Granted
K/54531/LBC	Replacement of conservatory to rear of house The Redhouse, Back Lane, Ramsbury. Mrs S Kendall
PC Comment KDC Decision	No Objection Awaited

K/55256/F And K/55282/CAC	Change of use of buildings to single dwelling and office involving demolition of existing extensions. This proposal will cause the closure of the bowling green. 1 The Square, Ramsbury. Mr. A Fitton.
PC Comments KDC Decision	This application will be discussed by the Parish Council and the Planning Committee at a meeting to be held at the Memorial Hall on Monday the 23 rd of October at 19.00 hrs. The plans will be on display from 18.45hrs Awaited
K/55291/F	Retention of 3 polytunnels, mobile potting shed and change of use of existing barn to storage of landscaping materials. Retrospective Application Lyncholt Meadow, Loves Lane, Ramsbury. Mr. & Mrs. Kimber
PC Comment KDC Decision	In circulation Awaited
K/55272/F	Side extension 1 Lamplands, Ramsbury. Mr. M. Barrett
PC Comment KDC Decision	In circulation Awaited
K/55312/TR2	Works to trees in the rear garden of the property to consist of; the felling of one willow tree, the removal of one stem, [of 2], crown thinning by approx. 30% and dead wooding of a third willow tree and crown raising by 8ft. to good growth points of a yew tree. 69 High Street, Ramsbury. Mrs. Fox
PC Comment KDC Decision	In circulation Awaited
K/55211/TR2	The removal of eleven trees in total at the property comprising; 3 x apple, 4 x ash, 1 x hazel, 1 x conifer, 1 x hawthorn, 1 x lilac Sunnybank, 13 Union Street, Ramsbury. Mr. D. Kerwood
PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection Awaited
K/55217/F	Alterations and extensions to existing house consisting of 2-storey side extension plus a dormer window, underground garage. Sunnybank, 13 Union Street, Ramsbury. Mr. D. Kerwood
PC Comment KDC Decision	No objection Awaited

B Finance**Chairman: Steve Cook**

- a. **Parish 2005-6 Accounts.** The accounts have been completed and the associated public notices displayed.
- b. **Parish Council Precept 2007/8. Actions: S. Cook to arrange Finance committee meeting. Committee Chairmen who feel they need provision in the budget for 2006–7 should let the clerk have details.**

C Rights of way.**Chairman: Geoffrey Treherne**

- a. **Village Walks.** A walk was held on October 8th to celebrate the 5th anniversary of starting regular Sunday village walks to use local footpaths following their re-opening after foot and mouth disease. A group of about 30 people walked to Littlecote then had teas and cakes at the home of Ronnie and Priscilla Price. Ronny Price who leads the walks has asked for additional leaders and a small group volunteered to help. The Parish Council will continue to publicise the walks. Next walk is on Sunday 22nd October from Buttermere to Coombe Gibbet. Meet at the tree at 2.00pm.
- b. **Hoppers Lane footpath, Axford. Action: Clerk to request quotes for resurfacing from KDC and P. Westall**

D Play Areas and Seats.**Chairman: Fiona Kimber**

- a. **Inspection.** Following the latest RoSPA report, members of the play areas committee inspected the equipment. The standard is acceptable, with a few cases of equipment not complying with recently changed standards Paul Court has attended to a few minor problems which were noted. **Action: P. Court to tighten screws and oil the single point swing at Ashley Piece.**
- b. **Ashley Piece Play Area.** Mr. Kelleher has been asked to remove the conifers. When this is done an additional copper beech tree will be planted. The baby swing has now been erected. Requests have been

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made for a ramp to replace the steps from Ashley Piece to the Play area. A previous ramp was removed as cyclists and skate-boarders playing on it caused a nuisance to local residents. Updated standards would mean that a new ramp would need to be very broad and shallow. No change will be made. The Whittonditch road path to the play area is badly broken up. **Action: Clerk to request quotes for resurfacing from KDC and P. Westall**

- c. Axford Play area.** New chippings are needed under play equipment. **Actions: S. Glass to arrange for Mr Keller to deliver chips from trees removed from Ashley Piece play area to Axford. S. Glass to liaise with D. Barnett and Paul Court on where to tip chips. See also Para 9 – Axford.**

E Emergency Committee

Chairman: Chris Morgan

- a. Emergency Planning Exercise.** This will take place on 9th November. A 7.15 pm start is being assumed. **Action: D. Barnett to confirm her availability.**
- b. Fuel Funnels.** **Action: P Court to collect.**
- c. Sandbags** are filled and behind the fire station.

F School Governor

PC Nominated Governor: Tim McQue

Governing Body. Susan Suchopar was elected Chair and Chris Wilson Vice Chair. New parent governors were elected during October and another parent governor election will take place in November. In addition, a community governor will be sought in the near future.

Staff. A newly qualified teacher Catherine Trew has been appointed as the Reception Class teacher to replace Heather Parkins.

Numbers. The intake for the next academic year is forecast to be 30 children, which is significantly higher than in recent years and bodes well for the financial plan.

Other changes. The school is working towards accreditation under the 'Healthy Schools' scheme in 2007. This measures a range of physical, personal and other developmental considerations. Regular French lessons recently started for all classes.

School Dinners. Hot meals are planned to be available for children from Easter 2007 sourced from a local outside provider, subject to agreeing terms and contract.

Lunchtime supervisors are urgently required. Midday Supervisory Assistants (MDSAs earn a modest wage for one hour per day worked from 12 noon to 1pm. The work involves supervising children during the lunchtime meal plus playground duty. CRB checks would apply. Applicants should apply to Ramsbury Primary School.

G Recreation Centre.

Chairman: George Hawes

Nothing to report.

H Policy Committee

Chairman: S Glass

Nothing to report

7 Public Forum - Standing orders suspended for this item

- a.** Hilary Farnsworth was introduced as temporary clerk during the absence of Sue Arnold in November.
- b.** On behalf of Mrs Fearon, warnings signs to alert drivers to children and ducks on the Froxfield bridge and a wider pavement on the downstream side were requested. It is unlikely that the pavement can be widened, but white lines delineating a wider area for pedestrians could be requested. **Action: Clerk to contact Wiltshire Highways.**
- c.** Tim McQue raised the inappropriate speed of traffic in Back Lane opposite Knowledge Crescent, particularly during school run times. **Action: Clerk to ask police to carry out a speed check at the location.**
- d.** On behalf of the Fire Brigade, Paul Court asked for flyers to distribute to High Street residents about parking following an incident trying to get the fire engine through between parked cars. **Action: S. Glass to produce a flyer.**
- e.** Mora Abell requested street lighting at the 2 bridges near Mill Lane. **Actions: M. Abell to see if there is evidence of a light there in the past. S Findlay to check old streetlight maps and contact Vince Kimber at KDC.**

8 Axford.

- a. Play areas.** **Actions: D. Barnett to treat the weeds in the play area prior to the application of the new chippings (See item 6.D.c.). D. Barnett to organise a group of volunteers to repaint the swings. The PC will provide the paint.**

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- b. Speeding.** Correspondence between the Safety & Traffic department and G. Treherne was read to the meeting. Axford will be included in the assessment for work in 2007-8. Cllr. Humphries explained how work is prioritised. G. Treherne requested that the existing 30mph sign is relocated to the outer edge of the village (on entering from the Marlborough direction) . **See item 9.**
- c. Speed Checks** have been carried out on Newtown Rd and in Mildenhall. **Action: Clerk to check if speeds checks were carried out in Axford.**
- 9 Speed Limits.** New guidance on speed limits has been issued. In Ramsbury the delineated 30mph area starts at the far side of the Froxfield bridge. This section of road is well used by pedestrians as it is part of a popular circular walk. It was suggested that the 30mph are should start outside Ambrose Farm. **Action: Parish Council to pursue having 30 mph signs moved in both Ramsbury & Axford (see 8b).**
- 10 Litter.**
- a. Litter Policy.** Cllr C. Humphries explained KDC's litter policy. This includes provision that unproductive or damaged public litter bins will be removed. The emphasis is on people taking away their own litter, so there is no longer litter bin provision in lay-bys, and there is no litter problem in those locations. Shops which provide litter bins can have orange bags from KDC to use for the contents to be collected. Parish Councillors noted that the bin by the Memorial Hall is always full and stressed the importance of continuing to provide dog bins.
- b. Skips.** It was noted that the cardboard and plastic skips behind Waitrose seem to be permanently full. Cllr Humphries responded that they are emptied 10 times per week. The chairman requested that KDC pressure supermarkets to reduce packaging.
- 11 Nature Reserve.**
- a. Seat.** The seat purchased in Memory of Roy Alexander should ideally be placed by the pond. To do this would necessitate extending the decking area and adding a guard rail. The quotation from BTCV for carrying out this work is approx. £1000. The Wiltshire Wildlife Trust, which is paying £100 towards the cost of the seat, has additionally offered £500 towards the decking and guard rail. C. Morgan proposed that the PC should spend the additional £500 needed to do the work. Seconded M. Abell. Approved unanimously.
- b. Sign.** Designs have been found for a finger-post sign to point to the Nature reserve from the High Street. **Action: Clerk to write to Chris Martin of the Fire Brigade to ask for formal permission for the sign to be put on Fire Brigade land.**
- c. Volunteers.** Volunteers to help maintain the nature reserve are needed. **Anyone interested to contact C. Morgan on 520501.** Local companies could also be approached as part of team-building exercises
- 12 Square refurbishment.**
- Quotes.** Responses are awaited from 2 potential contractors.
- Parking.** The original plans showed parking spaces delineated by paving sets at an approximate cost of £3000. However this is omitted from the latest proposal as the PC does not have sufficient funds. KDC has suggested that white lines to delineate parking spaces should be avoided. **Action: PC to write to Arab Horse Society and Kidson Trigg to see if they are able to help with the provision of sets.**
- 13 Parish Stewards.** October visit has been changed to 30th & 31st October.
- 14 Police Information Box.** Awaiting fixing in the Post office. **Action: S. Glass to follow up.**
- 15 Vandalism.** There have been a number of incidents this month including flour thrown over cars and telephone box in High Street and cars scratched in Chapel Lane. It was noted that male and female vandals are involved. **Action: Clerk to send list to police.**
- 16 Newsletter**
- It was proposed that the PC should produce a one-off newsletter to publicise village organisations, events, successes and issues. Content suggested included importance of using village shops, emergency warden scheme, and where to get information (e.g. parish mag and diary). Chairman and Clerk will liaise on this. Any Councillors who have have ideas for inclusion should contact them.

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17 Police Surgery. The next Police surgery will take place on Monday November 20th from 6.30 – 7.30 pm in The Parish Council Office, Memorial Hall.

18 The Youth Club is now meeting regularly on a Monday with approx. 50 11-16 year olds attending each week. The Youth Club requested that funds from the old youth club held by the Parish Council are handed over to the new organisation. **Action: Put on agenda for next meeting**

19 The Ramsbury Roxy. The next film is The March of the Penguins to be shown on on Friday 27th October.

20 Oral History. Compiling the CD of highlights is well under way and work is continuing and has started on preparing the scripts for printing and binding, and producing biography sheets.

21 Accounts for Payment

1895	Mazars – External Audit fee	423.00		63.00	No
1896	Holy Cross Church – Donation towards tree work in Churchyard	500.00		0	Yes
1897	G. Rissone- printing of plans of Square and postage	15.71		2.14	No
1898	Playforce – supply & installation of baby swing at Ashley Piece	3,496.80		520.80	No
1899	Sue Arnold – Clerk’s Salary	600.00		0	No
1900	Rates for Public Conveniences – due 1/11/06 by direct debit.	69.00		0	No
1901	Youth club – advertising, postage, first aid kit	15.04		1.48	No
1902	PC Care – Internet & web site service provision	68.72		9.44	No
1903	R. Court – Insurance for Youth Club	95.26		0	No
1904	S. Arnold – Gift for internal auditor	20.48		0	No
1905	S. Arnold – Ink cartridge for printer	36.41		5.42	No
1906	Midway Stores – w/e 16 th Sept – w/e 14 th Oct	4.60		0	No

TOTAL FOR PAYMENT for October - £5,345.02. Proposed – G. Hawes, Seconded – C. Morgan.

Unanimously approved.

22 Payments Received

R33	KDC – Precept	12,730.00	2/10/06	Direct Transfer
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TOTAL PAYMENTS RECEIVED = £12,730.00

23 Bank Balance on 01/01/06 CURRENT ACCOUNT - £14,729.48

DEPOSIT ACCOUNT - £28,100.94

24 OTHER CORRESPONDENCE - as listed below:

2104	01/10/06	Mazars	Return of certified accounts by external auditor. Action: Clerk to display on notice board and make copies available at cost of photocopying. Done
2105	01/10/06	B. Tottenham	Notes regarding parking at Back Lane and Loves Lane junction. (Copy of statement presented in Public Forum of September meeting.
2106	01/10/06	Cllr C. Humphries	Copy of WCC briefing note 103 – Local speed limits and 104 – Primary Care Trusts’ new chief executives.
2108	01/10/06	Planning Services, KDC	Acknowledgement of letter regarding planning condition at Smithy Cottage, Union Street.
2109	01/10/06	WCC, Emergency planning	Acknowledgement of receipt of Emergency Exercise form
2110	01/10/06	Tonic Construction	Response to invitation to tender for work on Square. Unable to tender due to workload. Given to G. Rissone.
2111	01/10/06	Wilts Music Centre	Annual review 2005/6
2112	01/10/06	Peninsula Business Systems	Photocopier promotion

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2113	01/10/06	MCASP	Help & advice for village shops in Wilts. Given to S. Glass
2114	01/10/06	KDC	Affordable Housing in Kennet 2006. Given to S. Glass
2115	01/10/06	Planning Services KDC	Acknowledgement of receipt of letter re the Square. Given to G. Rissone
2116	01/10/06	West Berks	Copy of submission version of Local Planning Strategy document. (On shelf in office)
2117	01/10/06	CPRE	Kennet Group Half-yearly newsletter. Given to S. Glass
2118	01/10/06	Chris Hay, WCC	Introducing new Parish Steward. Given to S. Glass
2119	08/10/06	KDC Planning	Approval Planning app K/55002/F. Given to G. Hawes
2120	08/10/06	WALC	October Newsletter + enclosures. Given to S. Glass
2121	08/10/06	Alliance Leicester	Current Account statement - £14,729.48
2122	08/10/06	Alliance Leicester	Deposit Account statement - £28,100.94
2123	08/10/06	Kennet Citizens Advice Bureau	Invitation to AGM – 26 th Oct 6.00 Devizes
2124	09/10/06	WCC	Wiltshire Parish Newsletter (electronic copy distributed to all councillors)
2125	09/10/06	Cllr C. Humphries	Request for nominations for Annual Achievement Awards for working with children
2129	09/10/06	KDC	Comments on proposed work on Square. Forwarded to G. Rissone.
2130	09/10/06	WCC	New finger post signs in Wiltshire
2131	09/10/06	Carla Payne, Newbury Weekly News	Request for info on Christmas events in village. Forwarded to Parish Mag and Village Diary
2132	15/10/06	KDC	K/55039/F – approval notice
2133	15/10/06	Wilts Strategic Board (WiSB)	Draft Sustainable Strategy Framework. For comment by 21 st November. Given to S. Glass. Details on how to view will be sent to Councillors via e-mail.
2134	15/10/06	Wilts Highways	Acknowledgements of correspondence regarding work on Square. Given to G. Rissone
2135	15/10/06	SMP	Invitation to seminar on Play & Leisure Provision for Parish Councils/ For. F. Kimber
2136	15/10/06	S. Deasy.	Acknowledgement of e-mail from PC re duck warning signs
2139	15/10/06	PC Kuklinski	Confirmation can attend police surgery prior to November meeting. (Parish mag and Diary informed.)

**DATE OF NEXT MONTHLY COUNCIL MEETING – MONDAY NOVEMBER 20th
2006 7.45pm
IN RAMSBURY MEMORIAL HALL**

ALL PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

YOU WILL BE VERY WELCOME - PLEASE COME